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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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ACTION: Embassy CARACAS
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Idea of meeting of Caribbean countries in order intensify cooperation in counteracting Castro-communist activities discussed at length with Fonmin Falcon Oct 13 and Amb Vasques Carrizosa Oct 15 (who according Montalvo will be next Fonmin). Both seemed very receptive. Vasques communicating with Montalvo and Falcon stated will take up with Betancourt personally upon return.

Following points covered in discussion and Falcon given informal

memorandum embodying them:

1. All countries bordering on Caribbean would be invited to meeting at ministerial or highest policy level of authorities concerned with internal and external security. However, it not (rpt not) expected Fonmins would attend. All OARs would be invited send observers. Meeting, which might last 4-5 days, might be held some Caribbean capital around November 15-20. Sessions would be private and communique issued. Meeting would be held pursuant para 3 Res II Punta del Este and PAU would be requested provide secretariat.
2. Meeting could discuss following topics with view to reaching agreement on general lines of action, leaving details and implementation to technical working groups of experts in each field under chairmanship experts different countries, each of which could meet subsequently in

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Telegraphic transmittal and

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country of Chairman:

a. Individual and joint measures to intensify surveillance coastal waters Caribbean countries against clandestine movement men and materials for subversive purposes, plus surveillance international waters around Cuba;

b. Measures to improve control of land boundaries through customs and immigration procedures and border controls;

c. Improvement internal security capabilities for identifying and controlling subversive activities;

d. Measures to facilitate and increase exchange of intelligence information on Castro-communist activities; and

e. Possible procedures to coordinate military contingency planning for emergencies.

Colombian and Venezuelan

Since attitude on participation ~~is essential~~ key to success any

such meeting, Department anxious obtain their views and be assured their cooperation before proceeding extensive consultations other Caribbean countries. Please dis-

govt at highest appropriate level

cuss with ~~Executive Committee~~ soonest along above lines. As to most appropriate

site, Department thinking of Costa Rica. However, we awaiting return Ponnam Oduer

New York October 22 in order approach him. Vasquez suggested possible joint

invitation to meeting by Colombia, Venezuela and Costa Rica which in our view would

be ideal. Your views requested.

End

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